

R 141328Z MAY 09  
FM AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4562  
INFO DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHDC  
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

UNCLAS PORT LOUIS 000151

DEPT FOR AF/E, AF/EPS, AND EB/CBA  
DEPT PLEASE PASS TDA FOR PAUL MARIN  
DEPT PLEASE PASS USTR FOR PATRICK COLEMAN  
DEPT OF COMMERCE FOR 4510/ITA/IEP/ANESA/OA/JED DIAMOND  
JOHANNESBURG FOR FCS AND TDA

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [BEXP](#) [ETRD](#) [EINV](#) [ECON](#) [PGOV](#) [USTR](#) [MP](#)

SUBJECT: USTDA GRANT TO CENTRAL ELECTRICITY BOARD SIGNED

¶1. On May 14, Embassy Charge d'Affaires, Virginia Blaser, and the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Renewable Energy and Public Utilities, Dr. Rashid Beebeejaun, signed a Grant Agreement whereby the U.S. Trade and Development Agency (TDA) will provide \$325,000 to the Central Electricity Board (CEB) to finance a feasibility study on the proposed CEB Transmission Grid and Transformer Network Monitoring System Project in Mauritius. The main objective of the project is to support the GOM's efforts to improve the efficiency of the country's power transmission and distribution grid.

¶2. The ceremony was attended by senior officials of the Ministry of Renewable Energy, CEB executives and Board members, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Chief of Protocol, as well as other senior government officials and chief executives of public utilities. Representatives of both the electronic and print media were present. The event will be covered by the national T.V. during the evening news and we expect detailed reports in the press tomorrow and in the coming days. The Deputy Prime Minister thanked the U.S. Government for this assistance, highlighted the importance of the project, and promised prompt action on the recommendations of the study.

¶3. One original copy of the signed agreement will be sent to USTDA headquarters via express courier.

BLASER